Quid Novi

VOL. 11 NO. 10 McGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW NOVEMBER 12, 1981

WALKOUT AGAINST CUTBACKS

BY RICHARD JANDA

The LUS Council voted unanimously at its November 4th meeting to support a general walkout protesting against education cutbacks. The walkout will take place on Friday, November 20th across McGill campus. A General Assembly of the LUS to ratify this motion will take place on Thursday, November 12th.

Campbell Stuart reported that the estimated budget cuts for our faculty total $138,000 next year. The 1981/82 budget amounted to $1.8 million which itself corresponds to a $150,000 cut over the past three years. Furthermore, even if the faculty could afford to fill staff vacancies if they arise, any new hiring can only take place with the authorization of the University administration. Given the tight situation faced by the whole Universtiy, saving money by attrition is not an unlikely strategy.

According to Stuart, cutbacks have already been felt seriously within the law program with the reduction of the number of French sections offered. This strikes at the heart of any serious attempt to make the school more bilingual. The trend toward larger classes, fewer courses, smaller staff, and greater unilingualism will be increasingly difficult to resist. And, most obviously, tuitions are likely to rise substantially.

The walkout will be aimed both at the provincial government and the federal government. The provincial government has already imposed a series of cutbacks and the federal government has long been threatening to cut down on provincial transfer payments which go toward education. Recently the federal Minister of Finance has been more explicit about targetting transfer payments as an "area of restraint" in the upcoming budget.

Several activities are to be carried on during the walkout day, including a march culminating at the office of the Minister of Education in Montreal. These activities will be outlined more fully at the General Assembly on Thursday.

The Council recognized that this

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TERRORISM IN THE AIR

BY PETER OLIVER

In many people's minds, the Entebbe incident conjures up scenes from suspense movies and thriller novels. But hidden behind this made-for-television event are some very serious and interesting international issues. In a presentation to members of the International Law Society and many other McGill students, Professor Magdelenat discussed terrorism in the air, using Entebbe as a case study.

According to Professor Magdelenat, the international response to terrorism in the air has taken three distinct forms: prevention, repression, and intervention. Neither prevention nor repression has produced satisfactory results, while the third option, as seen in Entebbe, places national sovereignty at odds with humanitarian intervention.

Prevention is perhaps most familiar to us as it affects in a direct way all those who travel by air. Prior to Professor Magdelenat's presentation, the group saw a film on Canadian prevention efforts. The National Civil Aviation Security Program was instituted to bring Canada into line with international regulations. Consequently, all Canadian airports follow strict procedures as part of a complex security system. As a result of these measures, Transport Canada is proud to state that Canadian "lives, aircrafts, and property are protected." As yet, this elaborate system has allowed only two hijackings to occur in Canada.

Despite the excellent Canadian record and Transport Canada's pride, our prevention efforts can have only limited effect on the

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Panel on the Constitution

BY DANNY GOGEK

Last Thursday, some few hours before the historic constitutional agreement was concluded in Ottawa, a well-attended panel discussion was held in the Moot Court to debate the question: "Should Trudeau proceed?". Chaired by Professor de Mestral, participating professors Daniel Latouche, J.S. Mallory and Irwin Cotler each put forth their personal viewpoints on the issue.

Looking quite beyond the immediate implications of a new federal constitution, Professor Latouche believed firmly that the federal government should proceed. According to Latouche, if Quebeckers are shown what Trudeau's "renewed federalism" really amounts to, they will ultimately move over to the PQ camp. As long as the Liberals were not forced to put their cards on the table, Quebeckers could be told that a magic solution was available. But the alternatives, a centralized federalism, and sovereignty-association, would now be clear matters of substance instead of process. Now Quebeckers would be allowed to see that in a "renewed federalism" Canada would become a dull "normal" nation -- a giant Manitoba.

Professor Mallory was more skeptical about proceeding. He emphasized the difference between the legal-rational world of law students and lawyers and the world of politics and politicians. In his opinion, the "whole exercise" was not merely a "coup de theatre", but "guerilla theatre".

Although he confessed believing there would be no great consequences and "the world would not change" if patriation proceeded, he was "uneasy" that the government could treat the conventions of the constitution as "something that does not matter".

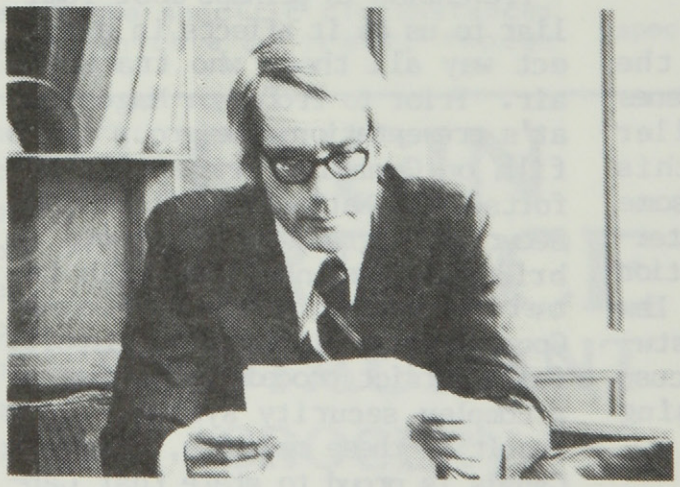
More confident from the tone of the compromise of the first-ministers' conference, Professor Cotler captured the essence of the debate when he stated that the question was no longer whether Trudeau should proceed, but "with what" he should proceed.

Professor Cotler argued that the Supreme Court had settled one important point in particular: that the process of patriation had been unconstitutional, not the content. He speculated that the problem of process could conceivably be obviated in a package containing Trudeau's Bill of Rights and the provinces' amending formula.

In some of the debate which followed, it was questionned whether the Charter of Rights would have any judicial effect at all. Professor Cotler suggested that it would since lawyers would have "new arsenal" to rely upon in cases deciding upon civil rights. He pointed out that historically, lawyers in Canada have often only had recourse to "division of powers" arguments in their defences against violations of civil rights. If he were wrong, Professor Cotler confessed facetiously that the Charter could at least serve as the unofficial "Unemployed Lawyers Relief Act".

In light of the events of the day, the discussion was a remarkable preview of the kind of debate that will now be taken up in Québec. On the one hand we heard Prof. Cotler welcoming a new era of attention to civil liberties questions and a new beginning point for constitutional development in Canada. On the other hand we heard Prof. Latouche talking about a threat to the special character of Quebec and the ultimate recognition of the failure of federalism that would come here. And in the middle, we had Prof. Mallory suggesting that those ready to make predictions should remember that in politics, especially now, a week was a long time.

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN?



If not, you probably shouldn't be reading this paper. Today he will tell us if we can cut classes to protest cutbacks.

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Contributors: Daniel Gogek, Peter Oliver.

Students and Faculty to discuss common concerns

BY RICHARD JANDA

The upcoming Faculty Council meeting scheduled for November 12 at 16:00 in room 202 and open to students will be taking up a number of issues of general concern. Students on the Council will be seeking a co-operative effort with the faculty in responding to the avis of the Office des professions and in taking up the campus-wide Cutbacks protest for November 20. As well, Helena Lamed and Campbell Stuart will be seeking deadlines for the circulation of the reports of Council's committees in order to focus work on these committees (Admissions, Exam Board, Curriculum, and the ad hoc committee looking into course evaluations). The objective is to focus the work these committees are now carrying out and to prevent the problem faced in previous years of a last minute rush of reports.

Marek Nitoslawski will be putting forward a motion to the effect that Council prepare a statement opposing the recommendations on "supplementary conditions" (from the Office des professions) and propose a compromise position. The "supplementary conditions" are the consequence of the proposed abolition of Bar School. Each Law School would negotiate with the Bar over curriculum standards and if the two parties failed to reach consensus, the Minister of Education would have the final say. Nitoslawski, who is already co-ordinating an ad hoc committee of the Undergraduate Society charged with drafting a student response to the avis, is hoping to find a shared concern among students and faculty over the possible threat to academic freedom throughout the imposition of standards which could change the nature of the school. His major objective is to air the issue and open up the Council to debate.

With a similar objective, Campbell Stuart will move that Council show solidarity with students on the issue of funding cutbacks by cancelling classes on November 20 and joining the general walkout. Although Stuart recognizes that on this issue, like on that of the avis, faculty is in a touchy political position, he hopes to gain some sense of parallel faculty/student fears over the direction of education funding policy at both levels of government. "Our objective is to avoid having the Council divided on student/faculty lines", Stuart insists. "This ought to be a common cause, not a divisive one."

Prof. Crépeau will be raising certain questions with regard to funding and appparently, in particular, with regard to the BCL part of the faculty and the Institute of Comparative Law. There has been some concern as to the relative weight given to the various endeavors of the Law School. It is possible that a clarification of the priorities in funding will emerge in light of these questions. Unfortunately, it is also possible that the Council may illustrate a case in point of the kind of internal damage that is being done to faculties facing substantial cutbacks.

Prof. Hannappel, who will give the report of the Examination Board, shall be putting forward a motion to change the way marks are printed. In addition to the student's grade, the academic record would, under the proposal, also include the median letter grade of all students who took the examination in that course. The calculation would be made on the basis of marks obtained before supplemental examinations and would exclude the marks of graduate students. This proposal is put forth in light of the concern that marks at McGill differ in standard from marks at other law schools. To have a median mark printed would allow those seeing the marks, eg. prospective employers, to judge them relative to the performance of the class.

Finally, Prof. Macdonald will be tabling Part I of the Curriculum Committee Report which deals with restucturing the weight and content of various common and civil law courses and creating new courses. The report is a detailed fourteen-paged document but the major recommendations (i.e. the motions the Council will be asked to vote on) can be summarized as follows,

1) Property IA and Property IIA would be abolished and a new obligatory six credit LLB course entitled Property IA would be added to the present Property IA course.

2) Property IVA would be reduced form three to two credits and the prerequisite of Trusts and Gifts I would be dropped.

3) Trusts and Gifts I would be replaced by a four credit course entitled Equity and Trusts. Gifts would now be treated in Property IA.

4) Torts I would also be reduced to four credits and a new optional two credit course entitled Advanced Torts would be created.

5) A new three credit national course entitled Canadian Legal History would be established. It would be optional.

6) An obligatory three credit national course entitled Administrative Law would be created. The present Administrative Law course would be re-entitled Judicial Review of Administrative Action and have the new course as its prerequisite.

7) A new, optional, two-credit, civil law course entitled Financing Commerical Transactions would be added.

8) Two new optional 3 credit courses both entitled Debtor-Creditor Relations (one B.C.L., one L.L.B.) would be established on a trial basis for two years, during which Bankruptcy and Insolvency would not be offered.

9) A new optional three credit national course entitled Native Peoples and the Law would be added.

comment

Pour la défense d'une liberté académique

Nous soulèverons ici essentiellement deux questions posées lors de la séance d'information du mardi 27 octobre présentée par l'Office de professions.

Tout d'abord, M. Campbell Stuart a demandé si l'argent du programme de rapatriement allait être versé aux universités, ce à quoi, l'Office des professions a retorqué qu'il s'agissait là d'une question qu'il appartenait au ministère de l'Education de régler.

Pour parler sans ambages, il nous semble que cette proposition vise essentiellement une économie monétaire. En effet, cette réorganisation des études supérieures et préprofessionelles profilerait a priori l'élimination de l'année du barreau sans compensation financière pour les universités-- d'où il ne faudrait pas nous étonner d'une hausse vertigineuse eventuelle des tarifs de ces dernières. A cet égard la seule justification qu' évoque l'Office des professions est la caractère répétitif des deux organisations; et ce prétexte fallacieux semble chercher à masquer au-delà du rapatriement lui même, un rapatriement de "gros sous".

Ensuite, une seconde question fut soulevée au cours de cette même discussion: quel est le standard que l'Office des professions ou que le ministère de l'Education souhaite adopter pour les universités-- et plus particulièrement en ce qui concerne le Droit?

Ce problème apparaît quelque peu équivoque, essentiellement en raison de l'entité de chaque faculté de Droit: ainsi l'UQUAM plutôt axée sur l'aspect social du droit, Sherbrooke sur sa facette pratique, l'U de M sur une approche à la fois théorique et practique et McGill donnant la priorité au droit national ainsi que son programme l' indique. Or si chaque université doit négocier avec le Barreau, il peut en ressortir deux choses-- en cas de consensus, bien sûr, puisque dans le cas contraire, c'est au Ministre qu'appartiendra le pouvoir de trancher la question-- soit un encouragement des diversités, soit une homogénéisation de la profession de Droit. Dans ce dernier cas, on pourrait assister à la disparition du LL.B. au même titre que tout autre programme jugé inutile par le Barreau ou encore qui consacrerait un caractère hétérogène au Droit du Québec. Le problème principal à ces égards est que nous ne savons pas quelle nouvelle direction le Ministre voudra donner au Droit.

Cette expectative nous pousse à soulever deux points. D'une part, dans le cadre du système d'éducation, comment le gouvernement peut-il détenir la prérogative de décider quelles matières sont acceptables ou non; et où se retrouve la liberté académique? Une chose paraît certaine: la stucture universitaire est destinée à être modifiée. Effectivement, les deux caractéristiques de la Faculté de Droit de McGill sont son programme national et sa tendance théorique, or, si en raison de l'élimination de l'année du barreau des standards pratiques sont imposés à McGill, ces fondements seront menacés d'une extinction eventuelle. Dans ce cas, si les étudiants de McGill veulent préserver le caractère particulier de leur faculté, il leur faut demander à l'Office des professions une clarification de ses intentions quant à la direction que doit prendre la formation professionnelle au Québec; nous nous devons de revendiquer la liberté académique et la conservation du caractère spécial de notre institution-- ce au même titre, bien entendu, que les autres universités doivent protéger leur propre aspect essentiel. Aussi, nous devons avoir des garanties de la part de l'Office des professions que ces aspects vitaux seront préservés: c'est un peu une obligation pour nous d'y veiller, en tant qu'étudiants actifs de Droit et même à titre de futurs avocats.

AGNES LELLOUCHE BCL I

Beginning for Canada, End for Quebec ?

The whirlwind events of last week's First Ministers Conference culminating in the "Ottawa concensus" left the public breathless and the politicians flexing their wrists after an intensive game of constitutional poker.

In essence, the agreement reached between the nine anglophone provinces and the federal government contained a version of the Vancouver amending formula and a watered down Charter of Rights. Mr. Trudeau, apprehensive about the chances for a smooth passage through Westminister of a unilateral package, agreed to an amending formula requiring the consent of two-thirds of the provinces having at least 50 per cent of the national population. The formula also allows up to 3 provinces to opt out of future constitutional amendments that affect provincial powers. Provinces will, moreover, be permitted to enact legislation to which specific sections of the Charter of Rights would not apply. Such legislation would have to be renewed every 5 years or those provisions of the Charter would regain their status.

Mr. Lévesque who has found himself isolated in his opposition, rejects the agreement for 3 reasons. Firstly, in dropping the

clause of the agreement providing for compensation to provinces opting out of federal programs created through constitutional amendment, the consensus has withdrawn a provision which Québec has long insisted upon. Second, the clause of the Charter of Rights guaranteeing mobility rights across Canada is viewed as infringing on Quebec's cultural sovereignty. Third, and most important, Mr. Lévesque objects to the clause in the Charter guaranteeing primary and secondary education in their own language for French and English speaking minorities across the country, a direct challenge to Bill 101.

In theory, these objections are not insurmountable. The "Canada clause" minority language guarantee, for example, was proposed by Mr. Lévesque himself, at St. Andrews in 1977, and has been adopted by the nine "consensus" provinces. Indeed, the Québec government had recently spoken of alterations to Bill 101's "Québec clause" with respect to English language education for temporary residents from other parts of Canada.

However, this is to ignore the shift in the rank and file of the Parti Québecois toward a more clearly "independentist" feeling and the hardening of Mr. Lévesque's own position. Any usurpation of what is perceived to be Québec's hard-won rights is unacceptable not only to the Parti Québecois but also to many moderate Québecois. Coming as it does, after the Referendum promise for a "renewed federalism", the Ottawa consensus can only serve to heighten Québec's sense of betrayal by anglophone Canada.

Though hailed by Mr. Trudeau and his nine new bed-fellows as a coming of age for Canada, the degree of anger expressed by Mr. Lévesque and other Parti Québecois members indicates that perhaps the final act has been prepared in the P.Q.'s ploy for sovereignty, the modalities of which should become more apparent during the new session of the National Assembly.

RICHARD ELLIOTT LLB I

WHAT'S WHAT

BY MARTINE TURCOTTE

LEGAL INFORMATION AND RESEARCH GROUP

Statutes have always been considered by the layman (and sometimes by law students and lawyers) to be unnecessarily complicated and occasionally unintelligible. One has only to look at the Income Tax Act to be convinced. Not only is the law governing our daily transactions but yet courts have often held that ignorance of the law is no excuse. How then is the layman to know and understand the law? Governments have been aware of the problem and in recent years many booklets providing legal information on different areas of the law have been published; TV programs and commercials were organized in order to give people a more comprehensible view of the law; radio stations have set up their own "legal information" programs. It is therefore possible to say that nowadays the law is highly "publicized". One has only to look at the vast campaign on the new reform of family law that was undertaken by the Ministry of Justice. Many groups have worked with the Department of Justice to achieve an overall popularization of the law and among them is the Legal Information and Research Group (LIRG) which can be found in each faculty of law across Canada.

The McGill group was founded four years ago by Brent Hussy who was then one of the directors of the McGill Campus Legal Aid Clinic. The Legal Information and Research Group (LIRG) is in fact a summer employment project supported by the federal Ministry of Justice. During the summer of 1979, Henri-Paul Normandin (director) and Emily deWolfe (assistant director) worked with 8 to 16 students with a budget of $56,000. In 1980, Emily deWolfe (then Director), Renée Vézina (assistant director) and eight other students worked together under a budget of $26,000.

The group's goal is to provide legal information to laymen across the country by means of books, films, etc., and any other project approved by the Federal Ministry of Justice. Up until now, LIRG has been involved in the publication of manuals which are being used by the McGill Campus Legal Aid Clinic and groups in the community as well as high schools and C.E.G.E.P.s. The five manuals that have been published are The Legal Education Kits, The Elderly and the Law, Manual for Community Workers, The Immigration Law Manual and finally The Law and the Handicapped which are also available in French except for the latter two. Two documentary films have also been produced one of which is an introduction to the law.

The Legal Information and Research Group and the McGill Campus Legal Aid Clinic are working closely together and last summer an "association contract" was drawn up stating that LIRG would be in charge of the publication of manuals whereas the Clinic would be responsible for their distribution.

For next summer, LIRG's director, Renée Vézina, plans to revise the old publications and to translate into French the last two manuals. The Legal Information and Research group will also be giving press conferences and will be helping the McGill Campus Legal Aid Clinic with its radio broadcasts. A new project which has not yet been decided upon will be presented to the Federal Ministry of Justice for approval.

Applications will be taken in April for anyone interested in working with the Group. Applicants must be bilingual and experience in communication, writing, legal research, typing and lay-out are definite assets. If you have any questions you should leave a message in LIRG'S mailbox at the McGill Campus Legal Aid Clinic.

POETRY

On The Character Of Mercy For The Behalf Of Those That Trifle With Sparrows

Lady Ethereal,
soft as swirling moonlight mist
gentle as a dove on Wing

Surely, such loveliness will fade
bound to this earthly plane!

She issued a blessèd sigh
pealing with the warmth of
midnight bells

Petaled hand beckons the cynic
closer to his steadfast maid

Alas, the luminousity of her gaze
betrays the sword converging into
fire.

-ruffles BCLIII

On Finding The Joy In The Law

Oh Adam, where by which dids't thou
rightful heritage die?

That Paradise near full bloom
should lose its petals
one
by
one
fluttering gossamer to the ground.

-When one dawn
teased by the playful breeze Muse
wafted gently, airborne.

-ruffles BCLIII

AND DISSY OVER NIGHTCAPS

"life is too short to be little"
-Benjamin "Dissy" Disraeli

of his need
he wrote long ago
-perpetual love
solitude or perfect sympathy.

in his prime, ambition had
driven him
to forty years of selling soul
"no grease on my clothes"
he would say of the pole.

and dissy over nightcaps in 1874
Prime Minister with a majority

great themes
fortune fashion fame
even now power
was the reward

Queen Victoria was calling.

PAUL MAYER

(Continued from page 1)
elimination of terrorism in world airlanes. Most countries have airport security measures similar to those used in Canada, but airports with relaxed security continue to exist, and this is wellknown to terrorist groups. Athens airport provided an easy boarding for the four Palestinians who hijacked an Air France jet in 1976 and directed it to Entebbe.

While it is generally recognized that preventative methods have reduced the number of hijackings over the past few years, the problem continues to exist. Terrorist groups see hijackings as an ideal pressure tactic: The hostages are easy to control, and the mobility of the plane allows the hijackers to choose their destination for escape. The Palestinian hijackers flew first to Banghazi, Libya and then to Entebbe, Uganda. Only Khartoum in Sudan refused the airplane permission to land. The apparent willingness of certain countries to provide hijackers with friendly ports for landing and re-fuelling has prompted anti-terrorist countries to seek co-operation in repression.

Repression of terrorism in the air has been attempted through a series of conventions and declarations beginning in Tokyo in 1961. The Tokyo Convention dealt generally with crimes committed on aircraft while the Hague Convention of 1970 made hijacking an international crime to be severely sanctionned by contracting parties. The Montreal Convention of 1971 attempted to close any loopholes in the previous measures. Canada complied with these conventions by amending the Criminal Code and the Aeronautics Act so as to include hijacking and other unsafe actions on airplanes as crimes.

As with other international agreements, however, the three conventions were of limited effect due to lack of participation. Certain countries, such as Libya and Uganda in the Entebbe case, are not willing to extradite or prosecute terrorists who fight for causes which they support. In an effort to assure participation, the seven most powerful non-communist countries

agreed in the 1978 Bonn Declaration to buoycott all countries which failed to respect the conventions. Naturally, there was great difficulty in enforcing these sanctions as the co-operation of private airlines was required. Nonetheless, at Montebello, in 1981, the seven claimed to have acted on the Bonn Declaration by refusing to fly to Afghanistan after hijackers were allowed to land in Kabul. Their words lacked credibility, however, for as Professor Magdelenat observed: "Who's flying to Afghanistan?"

The frustration which certain countries have felt in battling terrorism in the air through weak conventions has prompted individual acts of intervention. This last option has only been used three times, most notably at Entebbe in 1976. Similar interventions occurred at Mogidishu, Somalia where the German government acted alone and in Cyprus, where Egyptian commandoes intervened.

The aftermath of the Entebbe incident illustrated the type of issues which make intervention such a controversial solution to terrorism in the air. After the Israeli rescue, Uganda approached the Security Council of the United Nations, and claimed that Israel had invaded her airspace without consent. Israel, in turn, replied: first, that Uganda had assisted hijackers and thereby contravened the Hague Convention; and second, that Uganda had failed to protect foreign citizens. Professor Magdelenat pointed out that the Ugandan and Israeli arguments placed two powerful notions at odds with each other: national sovereignty and humanitarian intervention. Depending on the circumstances, one or the other of these justifications for action will appear most convincing. Any future intervention attempts are bound to provoke controversy.

With regard to the three solutions to terrorism in the air. Professor Magdelenat concluded that prevention had achieved the most significant results. Repression has been largely ineffective although it promises the most effective remedy. However, as long as prevention and repression are insufficient it is likely that interventions of the Entebbe type will recur. It is equally likely that such action will produce great controversy.

LUS COUNCIL

(Continued from page 1)
was an issue on which there might well be a meeting of minds between students and faculty. It was hence moved as well that Faculty members be requested to show solidarity with students and cancel classes on the 20th to join the protest. This subject will be raised at the upcoming Faculty Council meeting.

Turning to other matters, the Council heard the report of the Exam Scheduling Committee which had been established in light of the dispute that arose earlier in the year over the President's handling of this fall's schedule. The committee concluded that an early timetable is desirable because it helps students plan their term but that the method employed for framing such a schedule in the future should centre on the class presidents in order to ensure that each year's interest is adequately protected. The committee urged using the University's computer facilities for the actual working out of the schedule. A motion adopting this report was carried with two abstentions.

In the discussion over the motion, the concern was raised that since the class presidents are often not present in Montréal over the summer, it may be difficult to have them work out the schedule in time for the beginning of classes in September. Two suggestions were made in this regard. First, it was suggested that elections for class president might be held in the spring on the understanding that those elected would commit themselves to working on the schedule over the summer. Second, it was suggested that even if one of the presidents could not be reached during the summer, the president could delegate his authority to someone, including another president.

Marek Nitoslawski reported that an ad hoc committee was in the process of organising a symposium for the 18th of November to which various representatives of the Bar, government (Ministry of Education, l'Office des professions, etc.), and other universities would be invited to discuss the recommendations of the Office. Furthermore, a brief is being prepared to be ready by November 18 and presented to the government by December 18. Students shall be invited to make submissions to the committee.

Renée Vézina reported that as Ombudsperson she has dealt with several personal problems stemming from Mooting II. The functions of the Ombudsperson have been recognized by faculty and an effort will be made to publicize the availability of this service. It was suggested that in cases where the Ombudsperson cannot succeed in reconciling the position of student and professor, the problem should become the responsibility of the LUS executive and/or Council.

Stephan LeGoueff reported that the Scholarship Committee has decided that an award for service to the student community should be created. The award would be of the order of $200 and would go to a student recognized by the LUS Council. Some concern was raised about such an award becoming a popularity contest.

The Council asked Zella Osberg, the Admissions Committee representative, to put the following questions to the committee: 1) What is the policy of the committee toward CEGEP Students in light of the apparent decline in their numbers? 2) Is there any policy concerning native Students? 3) Are there any quotas of any kind?

It was reported that the Alma Mater Society is seeking class agents from BCL and LLB 3 to solicit contributions from fellow graduating students. This becomes increasingly important in light of cutbacks. Agents should be prepared to make a long term commitment.

Finally, the SAO has decided that Council's request for distribution of marks by envelope is possible but would mean that grades would be received ten days later than by the old method of posting.

DEBATERS PLACE THIRD

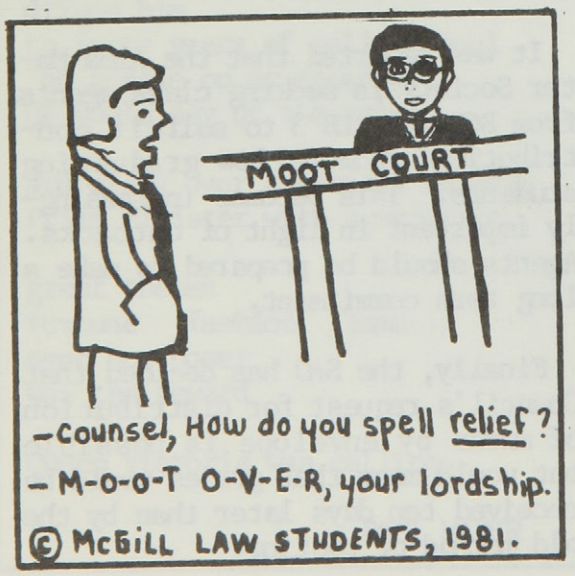
BY MARCEL MONGEON

This past weekend, the Canadian National Debating Tournament was held at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario. 48 two-person teams from schools from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia were in the two day competition. The law school was represented by Charles Lavergne, BCL I, and Marcel Mongeon, LLB/BCL IV.

Five preliminary rounds of debate were held; two rounds being on the prepared topic: "It is far better to incur a slight reprimand than to perform an unpleasant duty" and three rounds being on extemporaneous topics for which only 10 minutes is given to prepare. The preliminary rounds culminated in a final round between teams from Queen's University and McGill (although not the law school team!).

The final round was won by the team from Queen's. The McGill Law team placed third overall. The next tournament at which the law school will be represented will be the World competition to be held in Toronto during the month of January. Last year the law school placed second at this tournament.

If you are interested in learning more about debating or helping to organize an active debating organization at the law school, speak to either Charles or Marcel.



*** COMING EVENTS ***

Thursday, November 12

General Assembly: The possibility of a "cutbacks walkout will be discussed.
Moot Court at 13:00.

Faculty Council Meeting: The possibility of a "cutbacks walkout will be discussed, along with other important issues
Room 202 at 16:00.

Wednesday, November 18

McGill International Law Society: Socio-Cultural Conflicts: Mr. Al-Yassini, Fellow of the McGill Centre for Developing Area Studies and lecturer at the College of Administrative Sciences, Riyadh University, Saudi Arabia, will discuss the rise of Islamic Fundamentalism.
Common Room at 13:00.

Société de Droit International de McGill: Conflits Socio-Culturels: Monsieur Amman Al-Yassini — confrère du Centre de McGill "Developing Area Studies" et conférencier au College of Administrative Sciences situé à l'Université Riyadh en Arabie Saoudite — discutera de l'ascension de Principe Islamique.
Common Room à 13:00.

Thursday, November 19

Pre-Exam Party
Union Ballroom from 20:00 to 1:00.

Friday, November 20

Law Practice for Law Students: Mr. C. Fortin, Director of the Montréal Bar School, and Mr. C.B. Sproule, Q.C., member of the Ontario Bar, will hold a public conference to inform law students of the present possibility of having law students practice in Québec, and how the situation compares with that in Ontario. A committee will be formed which will study and propose a definition of an active law student practice for law students in Québec, associated with the Legal Aid Clinic, as is well developed in many other provinces. Everyone is welcome and members of the Legal Aid Clinic are urged to attend.
Moot Court at 13:00.